

# NEWS AND VIEWS OF SPORTS

Edited By Wagner

## NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS INVENTED GAME OF FOOTBALL

National League Secretary Heydler Announces Correct Distance Between Bases.

New York, Feb. 19.—Although a form of football was played by both the Greeks and Romans under the title of *Pheninda* and later *Sphero-makia* it has been recently demonstrated that the North American Indians invented and played a game similar to the football of early and middle-age Europe. In a recent article upon the subject, Parke Davis, the statistician and historian of the modern game, writes as follows:

"The first American played football in a well specialized game, of which he also was the inventor. Like Lacrosse, the Indian played his game of football upon the flat lands. The ball was made of leather, sewn with a thong and filled with moss. The goals were a mile and more apart. The players ordinarily were braves of the same tribe, but upon special occasions the game would be waged between selected players of different tribes, one tribe being arrayed against another.

"In these tribal contests the players came to the sands arrayed in war bonnets, war paint, and full savage regalia. As the time drew near for the game to begin, bows, quivers, shields and bonnets were discarded, and the Indian, lithe and athletic, stood forth eager and alert. Before commencing play the rival players shook hands and rubbed noses in formal token of the friendliness of the contest.

"Our renal reporters of three centuries ago tell us that sometimes several days are required to obtain a goal, in which event the contending teams would mark the spot where the ball lay at sundown and resume the game at that point the following day. And there was fair sportsmanship in their game, for William Strachey, comparing the tactics of the Indians to the tactics of Englishmen, and clearly referring to tripping and hacking, says: 'They never strike up one another's heels, as we do, not accomplishing that praiseworthy to purchase a goal by such an advantage.' They played for stakes, and these Indians, so high that William Wood is afraid to tell the size. On this subject he says: 'It would exceed the belief of many to

relate the worth of one goal, wherefore it shall be nameless.'"

The erroneous idea of the distance between the home plate and first base or between any of the other "sacks" and that which separates third base from the home plate seems to prevail not alone among fans, who generally accept the measurement as 90 feet but also by some ground keepers. The error caused Secretary Heydler, of the National League, a short time ago to issue an order calling for the reconstruction, on account of faulty measurement, of some of the league's playing diamonds. Under the rules laid down for a diamond's construction the various distances are as follows:

Home plate to first base 87 feet 9 inches; first to second base, 88 feet 1 1/2 inches; second to third base, 87 feet 1 1/2 inches and from third base to the home plate 87 feet 9 inches. The home plate, or rather the front of it, should be exactly 57 feet 1 inch from the pitcher's box as the official measurement from the intersection lines which meet at the back of the plate should be 60 feet 6 inches. As the plate measures 17 inches through from back to front it will be seen that the forward point of it should be located exactly 59 feet and 1 inch from the pitcher's box.

Chinese athletes competing in American intercollegiate contests are likely to be features of the coming indoor and outdoor season. Michigan, Case School, Cleveland, and Brown all have Chinese trying for places on the track and field squads. Several have made excellent records in Far Eastern meets.

The Metropolitan Association of the A. U. is considering the feasibility of purchasing an indoor running track consisting of rubber mats. The sections are cut in such form as to permit the laying out of a lap course of varying length. Such a surface would permit the use of spiked shoes and materially improve the time of all foot races both sprints and distance runs. It can be laid and removed in a few minutes.

## NEWARK SOLD TO TENNEY AND HIS PARTNERS

New York, Feb. 19.—The Jersey City franchise of the International League, which will be transferred to Newark this season, was finally sold yesterday by Edward Barrow, president of the league. Barrow held up the sale of the Jersey City franchise for several weeks to allow Oscar Lusk, and a syndicate of Newark business men sufficient time to raise \$25,000.

Money must be scarce over in Newark, for the \$25,000 was not forthcoming, and yesterday President Barrow sold the franchise and about ten players to Jim Tenney, one-time newspaper man and former Boxing Commissioner of this city; Fred Tenney, formerly of the Giants and Boston Braves, and Harry City Smith, a wealthy Chicago man and personal friend of Ban Johnson, President of the American League. Twenty-five thousand dollars in cash was paid for the franchise and players by the new owners.

Price, who has followed baseball for many years and who knows as much about the game as any other man in the business, will be elected president of the club, while Tenney will act in the capacity of manager. Fred has had years of experience at this end of the game, being leader of the Braves for several seasons. Tenney in his day was one of the best first basemen in the game.

Smith will furnish the money for the operation of the club and team during the season. He put up most of the capital yesterday and will have practically full say in the affairs of the club. The Chicago man has been trying for several years to buy a minor league club, but it was not until yesterday that he was successful.

While no definite announcement was made as to where the team would play during the season, it is likely that the grounds at Harrison will be utilized by the new owners. Price has been associated with Ban Johnson for many years, and it was said yesterday that a lease had already been obtained for the former Federal League Park. The grounds in Harrison were taken over by the National and American Leagues last week as part of the peace pact.

Jersey City will be left without a professional ball club this season. The Skeeters have been a losing venture in the International League for the last five or six years. This was because the club was a tail-end outfit each year.

Last season the club went to pieces soon after the start of the campaign and things became so bad that George Wilke, the former Giant, was let out as manager of the Skeeters.

Richmond made so good a showing last season that President Barrow was compelled to shift the Harrison franchise to that city. After Jack Dunn decided to bring the Richmond team back to Baltimore, Newark is one of the best minor league towns in the country.

W. J. Bryan will head the "big four" from Nebraska to the Democratic convention. Representative Schallenger of that State declared.

The Mexican gunboat Bravo will be sent to Galveston to take Mexican laborers from there to work in the henequen fields of Yucatan.

Farmers Want Ads. One Cent a Word

## FRANK MORAN GETTING INTO PRIME SHAPE FOR HIS BATTLE WITH WILLARD



Saratoga, N. Y., Feb. 19.—Frank Moran is now in hard training for his battle with Champion Jess Willard, which is scheduled to be held in Madison Square Garden, New York, March 24. Manager Gus Doran states that he will make the big Pittsburgher let up in his work for the next week so as not to go stale. Moran states that he is glad to know that Willard will not enter the ring unless he is in good condition. "Then," he adds, "if I beat the champion he can offer no excuse for his defeat." Moran has a variety of training stunts, such as ice skating, tobogganing and sleighing, in addition to his regular gymnasium work. Moran states that he expects to put the sandbag away inside of ten hours. Photo in upper left shows Moran chopping wood; lower left, punching the sandbag; one in upper right, Moran about to let go left.

## KEATING GOES TOMORROW TO YANKEES' CAMP

New York, Feb. 19.—Headed by Bill Donovan and Duke Farrell, who will assist "Wild William" in moulding his charges into condition for the coming baseball hostilities, the first detachment of Yankees will leave here tomorrow afternoon for the training camp at Macon, Ga. Included in the party, besides Donovan and Farrell, will be Ray Keating, George Mogridge, Harry Smith, Leslie Nunamaker, Plus Schwerk, Cy Fieb, Jimmy Duggan, the trainer; Gilman Gay, Howard Elliott and James McGovern. The last named three are semi-professional players, who come highly recommended to the New York Club. McGovern and Elliott both come from this city. They are infielders.

En route to Macon this squad will be augmented by Ford Meadows and Cliff Markle, both pitchers, at Washington, and Allen Russell, George Finn, another young pitcher, and Joe Kelly, the scout, at Baltimore.

J. Franklin Baker, the "Home Run King," and Lee Magee, Due former Brooklyn, will leave with the second squad. Forty-six players in all will be at the training camp by March 1. Many of them will be turned adrift before the team arrives at the Polo Grounds for the opening of the season with the Washington Senators.

The squad that leaves here on Sunday will get to Macon on Feb. 22. Donovan will waste no time, for in the afternoon he intends to have the players out on the field for their first work-out. The collection of players will be the largest of the winter, four catchers, thirteen infielders and nine outfielders.

## Railroad May Decide To Run Observation Trains For Crew Race

New York, Feb. 19.—According to Morton C. Bogue, Chairman of the Board of Stewards of the Intercollegiate Rowing Association, the New York Central Railroad is reconsidering its refusal to run an observation train for the annual Poughkeepsie race on either July 1 or June 30, and its final decision will probably be announced next Wednesday.

Bogue said yesterday that the plan of rowing upstream on some other date had been definitely abandoned as the right of way of the railroad would be exposed to the crowds for a distance of more than two miles, and with the fast trains going in either direction conditions would be very dangerous.

Bogue said that in addition to the heavy holiday traffic which the railroad is preparing to handle on the days proposed for the holding of the intercollegiate regatta there is the additional congestion in the freight department which bothers all the railroads in the country at that time. Notwithstanding this fact, however, the railroad and rowing officials will make every possible attempt to keep the rowing classic on the Hudson under the same conditions which have prevailed since 1895.

FUNERAL DESIGNS AND BOUQUETS JOHN RECK & SON.

## M'AULIFFE ISN'T WILLING TO ADMIT RECTOR WILL WIN

Boxing critics about New York and New Jersey cannot be convinced that Young Rector, who meets Young McLaughlin in the star bout of 15 rounds before the East End A. C. at the Casino on Wednesday evening, will not eventually be heralded as the feather-weight champion.

Rector's decisive victories over such stars as Johnnie Drummie, Eddie Wallace, Young Joss, "Dutch" Brandt, Mike Rosen, Young Cohen, Biz Mackey, and numerous other featherweights, have led these sporting writers to believe that the former Jerseyite is invincible.

Friends of Young McLaughlin cannot be convinced that the New England champion will be beaten and McLaughlin is saying but little about the outcome. All he has to say is, "My friends can depend upon me to be re-



JEROME HENNESSY. turned a winner. I know this guy Rector is some battler but remember the old saying, 'the bigger they are the harder they fall.' A delegation of about 250 rabid fight fans are expected from Jersey

City to root for Jerome Hennessy in his six round bout with "Tommy" Shea of New Haven. These two boys need no introduction. The Jerseyites are strong for Young Rector, the recognized light heavyweight champion of Ohio, and they pick him to put over the sleep producer on "Larruping Larry" Williams of Battling Levinsky's stable.

Both boys weigh in the vicinity of 135 and each one is known to carry a good wallop as the results of their previous battles will show. A four round boxing exhibition between Willie McLean of the Acorn A. C. and Eddie Kelly, the pride of Hard's Corner, will open the entertainment.

"Terry" Lee will be the third man in the ring while "Slim" Brennan will do the announcing. "Al" Burdick will tell off the seconds while the battlers mix things up. The show will start at 8:15 prompt and it is expected that it will conclude about 10:45. Reserved seats are guaranteed and if not delivered to the proper persons their money will be refunded.

## BIG SQUAD OUT FOR FIRST DRILL IN YALE BASEBALL

New Haven, Feb. 19.—It is planned to start practice for the entire Yale baseball squad immediately. Last fall an unusually large squad turned out and the results of the practice were promising. The ineligibility of Captain Milburn, LeGore, Easton, Pummely and Rhett has considerably marred the prospects but the chances are still in favor of a team up to the usual Yale standard.

Captain Middlebrook of last year's team has, of course, been lost through graduation as have Rellly, who played a star game at third base for three years; Hunter, last year's first string catcher, and Outfielder Hanes.

The pitching will be well taken care of this year by Underwood and Watrous, who were substitute pitchers last year, and Garfield and Grant, last year's freshman team. Of last year's infield, only one remains who is eligible to play, Bush at first base. Snell, Fulton, Shipley and Crotty of last year's freshman team seem at present to be the most likely candidates for the other infield positions. The outfield positions and the catcher seem to be entirely open at present.

Vaughn, who played left field last year, is still available for the outfield if his injured ankle recovers, and Mudge, a catcher on the 1914 team, will probably play. Munson, 1913, is also a possibility for catcher.

The management is fortunate in having obtained as coach William Lauder, who will fill the place left vacant through the resignation of Frank Quinby, now coach at Andover. He graduated from Brown in 1898, after having played four years on the nine, and being captain in his senior year. On leaving college he joined the Philadelphia National League club and played with them for two years at third base. Later, he played third base for the New York National League team. He has coached successfully at Columbia and Williams. He will take up his work with the candidates for the nine at once.

Last fall special emphasis was laid on hitting and base running. This work will be resumed immediately in the cage. As it will, of course, be necessary for Mr. Lauder to become

## SPORT TALK

HANDED OUT BY WAGNER

### PIE WAY INELIGIBLE.

The Yale undergraduates were given another unpleasant surprise today when it was announced that Pitcher Pie Way had been declared ineligible for the baseball team. He confessed that he had played one year at Norwich University, in Vermont, before coming to Yale, so he has already played the three years allowed by college regulations. Way was the best pitcher on the squad last season and he will be missed. He was a great lineman on the football eleven last year, too. Way volunteered the information about himself and did not wait for the committee to smoke him out.

The proposal of the new Eastern League to make a guarantee of \$100 for each home game and \$200 for Saturdays is taken to mean that two of the weaker clubs will be frozen out. It is not probable that poor baseball cities like Lawrence and Lowell can pay any such sums. This guarantee means that a club would need an average week-day attendance of 800. The Eastern moguls want an eight-club circuit and they will have it before another year.

Smokey Joe Wood was offered a good contract by Owner Lannin of the Red Sox last autumn but he held out for more money. Now that peace has been declared and he has nowhere to go, Wood finds that waivers have been asked on him. He should have been satisfied when he had a chance to draw a goat's salary instead of trying to work a Jesse James on

acquainted with the men and familiar with the squad, the winter practice is especially important. It is absolutely necessary for every candidate to report today.

A slightly new departure will be made this year in that the actual routine of practice will be more or less substituted for by a daily game of five innings. Under this new system the monotony of practice will be considerably lessened and more interest among the candidates stimulated. The practice will be short and although there will be plenty of hard work, it will be anything but drudgery.

## SEVEN VETERANS OF CORNELL CREW REPORT FOR WORK

Ithaca, N. Y., Feb. 19.—Cornell crew practice began in earnest in the machines in the gymnasium yesterday afternoon when John Hoyle, assistant coach, made up a variety crew which included seven men of the class of 1915. The first across the finish line at Poughkeepsie last year. None of the veterans reported until they had heard from their recent examinations. The makeup not only of the crew but of the other crews shows that the Ithacans have not lost a single star oarsman through examinations.

Assistant Coach Hoyle, who is in charge of account of the illness of Charles E. Courtney, placed Johnny Collier at stroke oar, the position he held last year. The only man missing from last year's eight not in the varsity this year is O'Brien, who rowed No. 7. He was graduated last June.

Six oarsmen hold the same places they did in last year's shell, the only change being at bow, where Fernow has been shifted from bow to No. 7, and Morgan, from No. 7 to No. 6, junior varsity eight, placed at bow.

## Lewis Breaks State Bowling Record When Locals Beat Waterbury

Connie Lewis broke the state record last night when he rolled 38 at the Clark City alley in a match between the Bridgeport and Waterbury teams. The local bowlers were in great form, going over the 500 mark in three strings. Murphy, who chalked up 327, was another star for Bridgeport. The team won the match by 1,556 to 1,506. The next match will be staged in Waterbury next Thursday. The scores:

Bridgeport.			
Feeney	92	99	106-297
Warner	93	97	86-276
Murphy	112	109	106-327
Musante	97	82	86-275
Lewis	136	120	136-381
Totals	520	517	509-1556
Waterbury.			
Stokes	84	103	83-243
Harper	95	111	114-320
Stone	91	92	94-277
Teller	81	110	103-294
Totals	471	518	520-1504

## Continue Hearings of Chinese Arrested on Local Streets

The continued hearings as to Don Quong and See Bong, scheduled to come before United States Commissioner Richard P. Carroll, yesterday afternoon were continued to March 15 at 11 a. m. The two were arrested in Bridgeport, by United States inspectors, on the ground that they were Chinese in the country illegally. At the original hearing before the commissioner a few days ago, the Chinamen offered testimony to show that they were rightfully here, and the government men had the hearings continued to investigate the statements they made. It was said yesterday that investigation had failed to sustain the truth of all the Chinamen said as to residence in this country and the government was asked that the government may offer testimony.

Twenty-one Philadelphia carpet mills granted their weavers wage increases amounting to 10 per cent.

the club owner.

First Baseman Dick Hoblitzell of the Red Sox says the two hardest pitchers he ever faced are Walter Johnson and Christy Mathewson. Hoppy has played in both National and American leagues so he ought to know.

Rube Marquard claims Brooklyn will beat out the Giants this season. The Rube and Chief Meyers will have a great time kidding McGraw on the coaching bench when Brooklyn clashes with the Giants.

That hustling aggregation, the Knickerbockers, will play the Blue Ribbons at Colonial hall next Tuesday night. The New Yorkers always play a peppery game and basketball fans never fail to applaud them.

Jack Warhop, the former New York American pitcher, has been signed by the St. Louis Nationals. He was released unconditionally by the Yankees but claims that his arm is in good shape again.

"Is Jess Willard too fat to beat Moran?" will be answered by former champion Jimmie Donnelly when he appears at Poll's next week. Corbett has made a success as a vaudeville performer and some people would rather see him than the diving girls. We said some people.

Tow Cowler will probably quit the ring. The morning after he was knocked out by Jack Dillon he was taken ill and his physician ordered him to go west to recover his health.

## MAJORS SPENT \$11,143 FIGHTING FEDS IN COURT

New York, Feb. 19.—Many an item of more than passing interest is found in the twelfth annual report of the National Commission, issued yesterday. It covers the period from December 31, 1914, to January 1, 1916. Despite the fact that the Federal League is no more and Organized Baseball need no longer fear that its recruits will be gobbled up by the salary boosters' brigade, there is no list of the drafted players. This list was published in the report annually before the late lamented Federalists came upon the scene.

That the National Commission is no bush league organization as far as finance is concerned is made evident from the fiscal entries. We find that the commission's operating expenses during the year, and that it disbursed \$48,482.30, leaving a balance of \$8,365.51. Evidently this is the entire war fund of Organized Baseball. However, in case of necessity the commission has only to levy a tax on the National and American Leagues.

Among the disbursements we find an item of \$200 paid to Louis Heller, former president of the big league, for compiling a list of Federal League players. Heller is regarded as the authority on minor leaguers. This sum was paid as early as April 20, showing that the big leagues took an interest in the Federalists even before the season was well under way.

It was a great year for the baseball lawyers, and the commission distributed quite a tidy sum to the Fund for the Support of Worthy Legal Lights. It cost the commission a total of \$11,143.23 to handle its legal matters, and most of that money went to fight the Marans case, which was won by the St. Louis Feds.

Hal Chase's jump to the Buffalo Bisons from the White Sox furnished an item of \$2,559.83, which, of course, that case, too. It is very easy to see that legal baseball is somewhat expensive. No doubt it cost the Feds even more to defend their cases.

## Indianapolis Federal Champs Produced Three Players For Majors

New York, Feb. 19.—While Joe Tinker is prating about a team that was good enough to win a pennant in the Federal league being good enough to make a pennant in the old National, it must not be forgotten that the Feds had another pennant winner before Tinker knew there was such a league. When Bill Phillips won two flags with his Indianapolis Hoosiers, and then got fired for it, because Indianapolis was hogging the limelight.

That Whom Bill really had a pretty good ball team is shown by the fact that three of his players have been snapped up by major league clubs. They are Kauff, Moseley and Rariden. Moseley goes to the Reds and the others to the Giants. Everybody knows Kauff by this time, of course. To Bill Phillips, more than any other man, must go the credit of developing this youngster. Rariden will be remembered as a catcher with the Boston Braves who faded to the bench when Hank Gowdy developed and later jumped to the outlaws to see more action. Moseley is a pitcher who seems to be a chronic case of discontent. He formerly was with the Red Sox, but walked away from them because of some grievance or other and finally landed with the rest of the baseball anarchists in the outlaw circuit.

## Two Pitchers Celebrate Their Birthday Today

Two of Connie Mack's pitching finds are on to-day's birthday list. Herbert Pennock, the southpaw, being twenty-two, and Weldon Wyckoff twenty-four. Both are natives of Pennsylvania. Pennock was sold to the Red Sox last year, after three seasons with the Athletics, but was traded over to Providence later in the season. Wyckoff won ten and lost twenty-two games last year with the Athletics.